Muirhouse Nursery Class

September 2018 Newsletter

We would like to thank you for your support in securing such a positive start to this nursery session.

Learning Journeys- *discuss what we did last year with Bernie*

You should receive the first instalment of this session’s learning journey by the end of September. *Do they keep this?*  We would be grateful if you could return the feedback sheet which will help us to provide

Learning Focus

Staff will now plan learning experiences around the context of “Autumn” and the festivals of “Harvest” and “Sukkot”. Learning will continue to focus on developing early literacy and numeracy skills, ensuring the positive development of health and wellbeing and extending children’s knowledge of the world, as well as responding to the needs and interests of our children.

Personal Learning Plan Targets

Staff continually review the content of your child’s personal learning plan. Periodically your child’s key worker may ask to speak to you about your child’s targets at the beginning or end of a session, however, if *you* have anything you would like to discuss about any aspect your child’s health and wellbeing and/or learning, please do not hesitate to approach your child’s keyworker at any time, however if you need more than a minute or two of your keyworker’s time, it may be necessary to make an appointment.

Fundraising Committee

You should have received a separate letter looking for parents to form a fundraising committee. Thank you if you have expressed an interest in this.

Donations

We would like to remind you that we are very grateful for any donations of snack foods and flour for play-dough.

Suggestion box

As another means of gathering the views of our stakeholders, we have added a suggestion box to our cloakroom area.

Bikes and scooters

Parents and carers, have in the past commented that the cloakroom area can become very busy at drop off and collection times. If your child does bring a bike or scooter and you are unable to take it away again, we ask that you put it into the open courtyard. This is accessible via a fire door from the cloakroom area, right beside where they are left at the moment. It is also helpful if large pushchairs can be left near the entrance, rather than taken right into the playroom, if this is at all possible.

Nursery entrance

You should be aware that, for quite some time now, the council have been exploring different solutions to create a separate entrance. If any decision is made about this, you will be informed.

Trips and outings

Following feedback from parents and our own self-evaluation, we agreed that instead of one big summer trip that parents needed to attend, we would look to create more regular, shorter outings for small groups of children throughout the session. The Butterflies afternoon group have already enjoyed a trip to Summerlee for a “Wee Engineers” workshop. Your child’s keyworker will keep you informed as and when outings are arranged for their groups.

Friday Group Snack Time

We usually operate a “rolling snack time” whereby children can choose if and when they go to the snack table. Whilst this generally works well, our own self-evaluation and feedback from some parents has led us to reintroduce a group snack time on Fridays at 10.30am and 2.30pm. During this time staff will be able to:

* Model and monitor personal hygiene standards such as hand-washing and appropriate food handling.
* Encourage children to make choices and try and wider range of foods.
* Chat to staff about likes and dislikes and help plan future snacks.
* Develop effective social skills such as learning to share.
* Increase the opportunities for social interactions.
* Reinforce good manners, such as please, thank you, pardon me.

Please note that children will not be forced to eat or drink anything during this time.

If you have any questions please speak to your child’s key worker.

Thank you for your continued support.

Gillian Matthews

Head Teacher